

**Subject:** February 12, 2016

**From:** "Councilmember Paul Koretz" <Paul.Koretz@lacity.org>

**Date:** 02/12/2016 05:08 PM

**To:** "Lisa Schechter" <lisa@mediadistrict.org>



### ***Traffic Advisory and Street Closure Announcement for LA Marathon on Sunday, February 14***

For over 30 years, the Los Angeles Marathon has been one of the best marathons in the country, with one of the largest fields of entrants. While we are proud of this tradition which was inspired by the 1984 Olympics, we are also mindful of the major street closures that will impact the city this Sunday. The course stretches from Downtown Los Angeles, up through Hollywood, west through West Hollywood and Beverly Hills, and continues to Santa Monica. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.lamarathon.com/race-weekend/street-closures>

### ***A robbery suspect is nabbed***

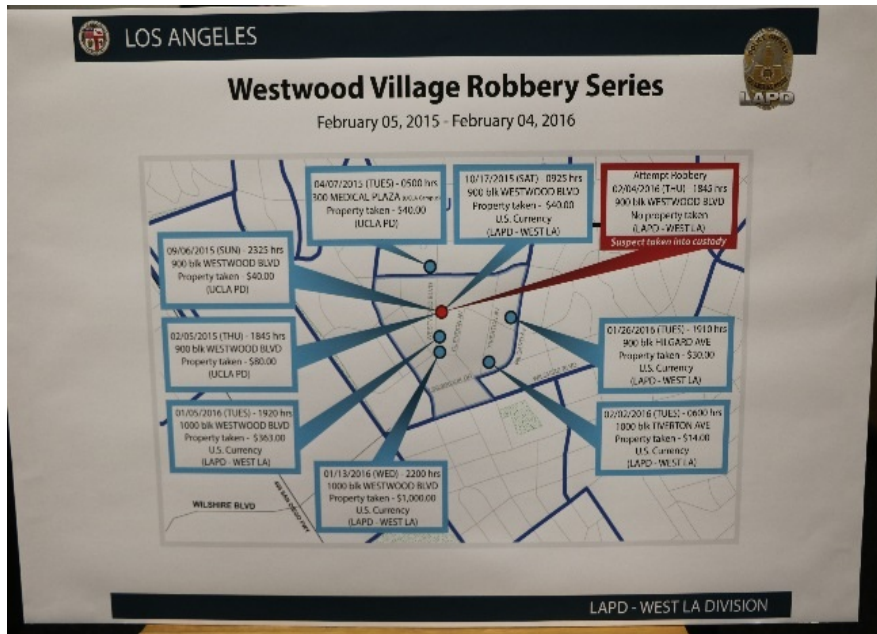
On Thursday, February 11, Councilmember Koretz joined members of the Los Angeles Police Department and UCLA Police at a press conference, and thanked them for their great work in apprehending a suspect, in order to bring to an end a series of at least nine robberies in Westwood Village. Among those present were LAPD West Bureau Commander Blake Chow, LAPD West Los Angeles Captain Tina Nieto, and UCLA Police Lieutenant Mark Littlestone.

The Councilmember especially commended West L.A. Robbery Detectives, West L.A. Narcotics Unit, and West L.A. Parole Compliance Unit, all of whom played a crucial role in this major public safety success.

Five of the nine robberies occurred between January 5th and February 4th of this year. The suspect targeted lone victims who were using ATMs in Westwood Village: he approached them from behind, simulated a handgun under his clothing and demanded money from his victims. West L.A. detectives utilized ATM photographs and witness/victim descriptions in order to create a composite drawing of the perpetrator. In addition, the suspect was known to wear glasses, red shoes, a hat, and carry a single strap black bag. Crucially, the detectives identified a pattern of times and places.

On February 4, West L.A. personnel, including Robbery detectives, Narcotics officers and other specialized units, coordinated a surveillance operation in Westwood Village. Officers were then assigned to various ATMs in the Village. Twenty minutes after setting up, officers observed a person with red shoes and single strap black bag, standing near an ATM. The suspect then walked up to a male victim and began an attempted robbery, and the officers quickly put an end to it and took the suspect into custody without incident. The suspect, Dennis Neal Toliver, whose criminal history included robbery and various property crimes, has admitted to committing the robberies in Westwood Village, and numerous counts of 211 PC Robbery have been filed.

Councilmember Koretz said, "when such serious crimes occur, they can shake a community to its core and dishearten and intimidate people, and that's why I'm so pleased and proud that our Los Angeles Police Department, and the brave and diligent officers who serve in West Los Angeles, focused adeptly on solving this outrageous series of robberies, so that people, homes and businesses in the area, and visitors to Westwood Village, might feel and be safe and secure." He added that, "the lack of an actual gun in these instances doesn't somehow make such crimes easy going or danger-free in fact, even the simulated use of a gun is incredibly dangerous and frightening. When a robbery suspect appears armed and threatening, victims understandably fear for their lives and may suffer significant emotional trauma. Plus, the odds increase that someone else on the scene, whether a civilian or an officer, may use an actual weapon. So once again, I want to praise the courage and outstanding leadership and actions of the LAPD and all the West L.A. officers and units involved."



### Tips regarding ATM safety

The Los Angeles Police Department offers a lot of great safety tips at [www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org). One such set of tips concerns how best to keep safe when one is going to, or at, an ATM machine -- and obviously, this is very timely and pertinent, given the quite recent series of ATM robberies that took place in Westwood Village before police apprehended the suspect. Here is a link to those safety and security tips: [http://www.lapdonline.org/crime\\_prevention/content\\_basic\\_view/1366](http://www.lapdonline.org/crime_prevention/content_basic_view/1366)

### Speaking to Neighborhood Groups

On the evening of February 10, Councilmember Koretz attended and participated in the monthly meeting of the Westwood Neighborhood Council, where he discussed various local and civic issues, listened to suggestions and answered questions. The Councilmember greatly enjoys his frequent visits to our many 5th District organizations, and thanks the Westwood Neighborhood Council and its members for their hospitality, activism and leadership.



***The deadline is fast approaching if you want to take advantage of returning overdue items with no fines.***

**NOTHING CAN KEEP  
US APART. *NOT EVEN  
LATE FEES* ♥**

From February 1-14, return your overdue Los Angeles Public Library materials with no overdue fines.

#laplmissesyou

This message was sent to [lisa@mediadistrict.org](mailto:lisa@mediadistrict.org) by:

**Los Angeles Councilmember Paul Koretz**  
200 N. Spring Street, Rm. 440  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 473-7005

Unsubscribe:  
If you would like to be removed from this list, please [click here](#).

Sent Using :  
**SimpleSend**  
[www.simplesend.com](http://www.simplesend.com)